(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A command & control system exists.

(c) and (d) India's nuclear deterrent is predicated on the basic principle of strict political/civilian control. Such control would be exercised through appropriate scientific, technological and military management of the nuclear assets of the country to prevent unauthorised or accidental use.

(e) Does not arise.

**Acquisition of land for INS Kattabomman in Tamil Nadu**

1880. SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much land has been acquired so far for setting-up of INS Kattabomman of Vijayanarayanan in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is a fact that job opportunities have not been provided to the owners or the wards of owners whose lands have been acquired by Government; and

(c) whether Government provide employment to all the families whose lands have been acquired in view of the hardship faced by the poor people due to the land acquisition?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Land measuring 2934.159 acres have been acquired for setting up of INS Kattabomman at Vijayanarayanan in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) As per the existing Government policy, no commitment is given with regard to employment to members of displaced families. However, due consideration is given to the members of the families whose land is acquired depending on the availability of vacancies and fulfilment of qualifications and other eligibility criteria laid down for the posts for which they apply.

**Modernisation of Air Force and Navy**

1881. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the details of steps taken/contemplated by Government to modernise Air Force and Navy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Modernisation of the Defence Forces is a continuous process and necessary steps, in pursuance thereof, are taken, keeping in view the current, as well as, futurisic threat perceptions. In so far as IAF is concerned, the steps taken include mid-life upgradation of some of the existing aircraft/weapon systems, acquisition of air defence/air superiority aircraft and induction of multirole state of the art aircraft. Steps have also been taken to strengthen the electronic warfare armour of the IAF, as well as, provision of precision guided munitions to enhance accuracy and lethality of its strike power. Combat aircraft and attack helicopters in the IAF inventory are also being equipped with night attack capability to enable them to operate both in day and night conditions. In respect of Navy, plans are afoot to acquire modern/state of the art frigates/submarines and modernisation of the aircraft car-